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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9724
INFO RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 000406

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR WHA/CEN, WHA/PD AND WHA/CCA

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KDEM KPAO PHUM PREL SOCI CU CS
SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN ASSEMBLY AND MEDIA PLAN DAY OF
SOLIDARITY OBSERVANCES MAY 21

REF: A. STATE 46997

¶B. STATE 45792
¶C. STATE 51536

¶11. (SBU) Per reftels, Post contacted media and key community leaders active on Cuban issues to promote the Day of

Solidarity observance. Planned activities include the following:

-- Four members of the National Assembly will speak for a total of 20 minutes during the May 21 plenary session regarding the Day of Solidarity with the Cuban People. The four are: Oscar Nunez, chief of the governing National Liberation Party (PLN) faction; Ovidio Aguero, head of the Libertarian Movement (ML); and Independents Evita Arguedas and Jose Manuel Echandi. The plenary will be covered by the media and will also broadcast live on TV channel 26 and Radio Nacional. We worked with local Cuban community contact Adriana Nunez, who is also the Communications Advisor to the PLN, to suggest talking points for the four members' speeches.

-- Jaime Ordonez, a prominent intellectual and regional democracy expert, when alerted to the May 21 observance, told us he would write an opinion column in a supplement to Costa Rica's number one daily Diario Extra and would do a spot on Radio Universidad during his program "El Mundo en Contacto" (The World in Contact).

-- Post has also promoted the significance of the Day of Solidarity among various journalists, including Richard Zamora, host of the influential daily Radio Eco program "In Focus," who is looking into doing an interview on the topic (details pending).

-- We are also working to place the Department-suggested op-ed in the local press.

¶12. (SBU) We raise, as appropriate, the issue of Cuba during our frequent meetings with many of our counterparts on a regular basis. Our most recent dialogue included the request to resettle some Cuban migrants in Costa Rica. This request is still pending.
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